



AN ACT AMENDING FILING FEE REQUIREMENTS FOR PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE PRIMARY ELECTIONS; AND AMENDING SECTIONS 13-10-202, 13-10-404, AND 13-10-405, MCA.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

**Section 1.** Section 13-10-202, MCA, is amended to read:

**"13-10-202. Filing fees.** Filing fees are as follows:

- (1) for offices having an annual salary of \$2,500 or less and candidates for the legislature, \$15;
- (2) for county offices having an annual salary of more than \$2,500, 0.5% of the total annual salary;
- (3) for president in a presidential preference primary, an amount equivalent to the filing fee required for a United States senate candidate;
- ~~(3)~~(4) for other offices having an annual salary of more than \$2,500, 1% of the total annual salary;
- ~~(4)~~(5) for offices in which compensation is paid in fees, \$10;
- ~~(5)~~(6) for officers of political parties, presidential electors, and officers who receive no salary or fees, no filing fee is required."

**Section 2.** Section 13-10-404, MCA, is amended to read:

**"13-10-404. Placement of candidate on primary ballot -- methods of qualification -- filing fee. (1)**

Before an individual intending to qualify as a presidential candidate may qualify for placement on the ballot, the individual shall qualify by one or more of the following methods:

~~(1)~~(a) The individual has submitted a declaration for nomination that is signed by the candidate or an authorized election official to the secretary of state pursuant to 13-10-201(2) and has been nominated on petitions with the verified signatures of at least 500 qualified electors. The secretary of state shall prescribe the form and content of the petition.

~~(2)~~(b) The individual has submitted a declaration for nomination to the secretary of state pursuant to 13-10-201, and the secretary of state has determined, by the time that declarations for nomination are to be filed,

that the individual is eligible to receive payments pursuant to the federal Presidential Primary Matching Payment Account Act, 26 U.S.C. 9031, et seq.

(2) Except as provided by 13-10-201(3), the individual's declaration for nomination submitted pursuant to subsection (1) of this section must be accompanied by the filing fee set in 13-10-202(3)."

**Section 3.** Section 13-10-405, MCA, is amended to read:

**"13-10-405. Submission and verification of petition.** Petitions of nomination for the presidential preference primary election and the affidavits of circulation required by 13-27-302 must be presented to the election administrator of the county in which the signatures are gathered at least 1 week before the primary election filing deadline prescribed in 13-10-201(7). ~~A filing fee is not required.~~ The election administrator shall verify the signatures in the manner prescribed in 13-27-303 through 13-27-308 and must forward the petitions to the secretary of state by the filing deadline prescribed in 13-10-201(7)."

- END -

I hereby certify that the within bill,  
HB 0288, originated in the House.

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Speaker of the House

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day  
of \_\_\_\_\_, 2017.

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Chief Clerk of the House

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President of the Senate

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day  
of \_\_\_\_\_, 2017.

HOUSE BILL NO. 288

INTRODUCED BY B. BENNETT, B. BEARD, G. CUSTER, F. GARNER, E. GREEF, A. HERTZ, G. HERTZ,  
M. HOPKINS, S. MORIGEAU, J. TREBAS

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